

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
COMMISSIONERS CHAMBERS
FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1999
1:30 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Kathy Campbell, Chair
Larry Hudkins
Linda Steinman
Bob Workman

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Diane Staab, Deputy County Attorney
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Clerk

- 1) MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting held on Tuesday, January 12, 1999. (A copy of these minutes is on file in the Office of the Lancaster County Clerk.)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval of the minutes of January 12, 1999. On call Campbell, Hudkins, Workman and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 2) ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS:

Approval of 89 additions and deductions to the tax assessment rolls per Exhibit A. (199989) (199993)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded approval. On call Campbell, Steinman, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 3) MOTOR VEHICLE TAX EXEMPTIONS:

Blessed Sacrament School
BryanLGH Medical Center
Cathedral of the Risen Christ
Christian Record Services, Inc.
Congregation of Mary Queen
Nebraska Wesleyan University
Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center
Southeast Nebraska Mobile Diagnostic Services, Inc.
Tabitha Inc.
The American Legion, Department of Nebraska
The Catholic Bishop of Lincoln
The Good News Broadcasting Association, Inc
Trinity Lutheran Church of Lincoln, Nebraska
Union College

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded approval of motor vehicle tax exemptions for Blessed Sacrament School, BryanLGH Medical Center, Cathedral of the Risen Christ, Christian Record Services, Inc., Congregation of Mary Queen, Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, Southeast Nebraska Mobile Diagnostic Services, Inc., Tabitha Inc., The American Legion Department of Revenue, The Catholic Bishop of Lincoln, The Good News Broadcasting Association, Inc. and Trinity Lutheran Church of Lincoln, Nebraska and to approve motor vehicle tax exemptions for Nebraska Wesleyan University and Union College subject to titling and registering the vehicle(s) to applicant. On call Steinman, Workman, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

4) NOTICE OF VALUATION CHANGE FOR OMITTED OR UNDERVALUED PROPERTY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Chad L and Wendy J Bowman

The County Assessor recommended the new value be set at \$83,200.

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded to accept the recommendation of the County Assessor and set the new value for Chad L and Wendy J Bowman at \$83,200. On call Workman, Hudkins, Campbell and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

5) ADJOURNMENT:

By direction of the Chair the meeting was adjourned.

Gwen Thorpe
Deputy County Clerk

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- 1) MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on Tuesday, January 12, 1999. (A copy of these minutes is on file in the Office of the Lancaster County Clerk.)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval of the minutes of January 12, 1999. On call Campbell, Hudkins, Workman and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 2) CLAIMS: Approval of all claims processed through Tuesday, January 19, 1999.

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded approval. On call Campbell, Steinman, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- 3) ITEMS OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Clerk asked if anyone present requested a change in the agenda. No requests were made and the meeting proceeded as planned.

- 4) OLD BUSINESS:

A resolution requesting the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads to act on behalf of the County in obtaining federal funds for a road project, in the estimated amount of \$621,500, on North 141 Street. (199937)

4) OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED:

Hudkins stated Virgil Dearmont, County Engineering Department, was to meet with Commissioner Workman earlier in the day, however, the meeting was postponed. It was requested that the item be deferred for one week to allow the County Engineer to report on the resolution at the County Board's staff meeting on Thursday, January 21st.

5) NEW BUSINESS:

A. An application for a Special Events Permit from the '99 Animal Run to hold a fundraiser on Saturday, January 30, 1999 beginning at 10 a.m. (19998) (199957) (199959)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded approval. On call Hudkins, Steinman, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

B. An agreement with Nebraska Machinery Company for two motor graders, including trade-in allowance and mounting of additional equipment, in the amount of \$170,930; for maintenance of the motor graders for a guaranteed maximum repair cost for a seven year period, not to exceed \$2,000 per unit and a guaranteed buy back offer for the motor graders after seven years of service, for \$93,225 per machine. (199974)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded approval. On call Steinman, Workman, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

C. A resolution accepting the following roads and streets located in High Ridge Estates for County maintenance: (199997)

- O Approximately 2,390 feet of West Springview Road
- O Approximately 1,921 feet of West High Ridge Road
- O Approximately 553 feet of Southwest 35th Circle
- O Approximately 559 feet of Southwest 35th Court
- O Approximately 513 feet of Southwest 37th Street
- O Approximately 453 feet of Southwest 38th Street

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded approval of Resolution 99-97. On call Workman, Hudkins, Campbell and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

5) NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

D. Authorization of the installation of the following traffic signs:

- O A "Stop Ahead" sign on North 134th Street south of Alvo Road for northbound traffic
- O A "Stop Ahead" sign on Southwest 100th Street north of West Stagecoach Road for southbound traffic
- O A "Watch for Machinery and Cattle" sign south of the drive to the Talcott farm on South 84th Street south of Rokeby Road for northbound traffic

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval. On call Campbell, Steinman, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

E. Transfer of \$21,355 from the General Government Budget and \$4,066 from the Clerk of the District Court Budget to the Jury Commissioner Budget, effective January 28, 1999. (1999100)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval of Resolution 99-100.

Campbell stated selection and calling of juries had previously been conducted by the Clerk of the District Court, however, by statute, it has been a duty of the Election Commissioner. She explained the duty is now being returned to the Election Commissioner and appropriations will need to be transferred in order to effectuate the change.

ROLL CALL: Workman, Steinman, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

F. Recommendation from the Purchasing Agent and the County Engineer to award a bid to Monarch Oil, Inc., in the amount of \$13,800, for crack sealing. (199998)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded approval. On call Steinman, Hudkins, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

G. Recommendation from the Purchasing Agent and the County Engineer to award a bid to LCL Truck Equipment, Inc., in the amount of \$62,601, for installation of three new truck bodies and attachments. (1999105)

5) NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval. On call Workman, Campbell, Hudkins and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

H. Recommendation from the Purchasing Agent and the County Engineer to award a bid to Omaha Truck Center, in the amount of \$113,643, for three cab and chassis, including extra wheels and manuals. (1999104)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded approval.

Workman stated the bid sheet indicated a total of \$112,623 and inquired about the difference between the bid sheet and the amount listed on the agenda.

Kathy Smith, Assistant Purchasing Agent, appeared and stated the \$113,643 was the correct amount and explained that the additional funds were for extra wheels and manuals.

ROLL CALL: Hudkins, Workman, Campbell and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

I. A political subdivision tort claim filed against the Corrections Department by Richard W Grant for lost property, in the amount of \$3,000. (1999101)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded to accept the Director's recommendation and deny the claim filed by Richard W Grant. On call Campbell, Steinman, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

J. A political subdivision tort claim filed against the Corrections Department by Rick L Estle for lost property, in the amount of \$100. (1999102)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded to accept the Director's recommendation and deny the claim filed by Rick L Estle. On call Hudkins, Campbell, Steinman and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

K. Annual report from the Noxious Weed Control Authority to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. (199970)

Russ Shultz, Weed Control Superintendent, appeared and stated infestation and activity reports are included, along with the annual plan for the coming year.

Steinman pointed out that the Noxious Weed Control Authority received a perfect score from the State regarding job performance.

5) NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval. On call Campbell, Hudkins, Workman and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

L. Setting of a salary for Timothy Sopinski, part-time Deputy Public Defender, at a rate of \$25 per hour for 16 hours per week and for a six month period, beginning January 7, 1999. (199954)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval. On call Campbell, Steinman, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

M. Reappointment of Tom Petsch and appointment of Wayne Woldt and Rick Albro to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Board, terms to expire November 1, 2001. (199990) (199991)

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded approval. On call Steinman, Workman, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

N. Appointment of the following individuals to the Government Access and Information Committee: (199999)

<u>Individual</u>	<u>Term</u>
Jim Langtry	January 1, 1999 - January 1, 2000
Kent Morgan	January 1, 1999 - January 1, 2000
Maura Kelly-Tolzin	January 1, 1999 - January 1, 2000
Greg Aschoff	January 1, 1999 - January 1, 2001

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded approval. On call Workman, Hudkins, Campbell and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

6) CONSENT ITEMS: These are items of business before the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners which have been previously supplied to each Commissioner in writing, which are relatively routine and which are expected to be adopted without dissent. Any individual item may be removed for special discussion and consideration by a Commissioner or by any member of the public without prior notice. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board of Commissioners. These items are approval of:

A. An agreement with Cole Layer Trumble Company to assist the County Assessor's Office with off-site market valuation services, not to exceed \$5,000. (199968)

6) CONSENT ITEMS CONTINUED:

- B. Three maintenance agreements with Microfilm Imaging Systems for equipment located at Records and Information Management, in the total amount of \$2,755. (1999106)
- C. Contracts with the following relating to road improvements:
 - O Gerald M Josephson and Sharon K Meyer on West Fletcher Avenue near Northwest 123rd Street, in the amount of \$128.75 (199979)
 - O Doris Shriver and Mary C Oltjenbruns on West Fletcher Avenue near Northwest 123rd Street, in the total amount of \$3,188.03 (3 contracts) (199982-199984)
 - O Stanley R and Marcia A Greve on North 1st Street near Humphrey Avenue, in the total amount of 405 (2 contracts) (199980-199981)

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval of the Consent Items. On call Hudkins, Steinman, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

7) OTHER BUSINESS:

John Austin, rural Lancaster County, appeared and inquired about the possibility of the Attention Center being located in the Yankee Hill neighborhood.

Steinman responded that the location has not been designated on the list of priority sites.

Also discussed by Austin were the following:

- O Patching of a hole at Folsom and West Burnham
- O Two speed limit signs within 50 feet of each other on West Burnham

8) DISCUSSION OF COUNTY BOARD MEETING POLICY:

Campbell explained discussion took place at a staff meeting regarding changes in how the County Board conducts business at the regular County Board meeting held on Tuesday and at the Thursday staff meeting.

Those issues discussed at the staff meeting on Thursday, January 14th were as follows:

- O Change meeting time for staff meetings from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.
- O Plan for educational sessions/tours
- O Move Consent Items forward on the staff meeting agenda
- O Placement of items on the County Board agenda

8) DISCUSSION OF COUNTY BOARD MEETING POLICY CONTINUED:

- O Reinststate meetings with the Mayor through the Chair and Vice Chair
- O Press relations
- O Change regular County Board and staff meeting schedules to allow sufficient time to issue briefings
- O Expand length and scope of the regular County Board meetings

Hudkins stated he favors changing the meeting time for staff meetings from 8 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, distributed copies of Resolution 5465 which establishes an open meetings policy for the County Board (Exhibit A).

Eagan addressed the regular Tuesday agenda and stated that items which require official action are placed on the agenda including claims against the County, adoption of official resolutions and policies, execution of contracts and general exercise of the legislative and quasi-judicial powers of the County Board.

The Thursday staff meetings, Eagan stated, are meant to be more of an informational gathering meeting where governmental and private individuals are encouraged to bring information forward.

Regular County Board Meetings

Steinman stated she feels there are items on the staff meeting agenda which could be heard at the regular Tuesday meeting.

Hudkins concurred and suggested that presentations by the Planning Department be held in conjunction with the City Council.

Campbell read the following into the record, "Comments from the Public on Agenda Items: Members of the public who wish to comment on any item on the agenda may come forward at this time" and explained that the idea was to hear individuals who wish to speak about an item prior to its appearance on the agenda.

Campbell stated individuals affected or involved in an issue should appear when the item is called, however, if an individual has no personal stake in the item they should speak prior to the item being heard.

8) DISCUSSION OF COUNTY BOARD MEETING POLICY CONTINUED:

Thursday Staff Meetings

It was the consensus of the County Board to begin staff meetings at 8:15 a.m. rather than 8 a.m., beginning January 21, 1999.

Educational session and tours

Discussion to be held on Thursday, January 21, 1999 regarding the possibility of scheduling educational sessions/tours during Mid-Year Budget Review.

Consent Items

It was the consensus of the County Board to move Consent Items forward on the staff meeting agenda.

Placement of Items on Agenda

Policy for regular County Board meeting is that items of public interest and public hearings will be heard first.

Steinman suggested the final decision of placing items on the staff meeting agendas be made in conjunction with the Chair.

Reinstate meetings with the Mayor through the Chair and Vice Chair

It was the consensus to reinstate meetings with the Mayor.

Press Relations

It was suggested that a monthly press conference be held prior to a County Board meeting.

Hudkins invited media comment regarding ways the County Board can facilitate information.

Campbell suggested inviting Diane Gonzales, Director of the Citizens Information Center, to attend a staff meeting regarding the structuring of press conferences.

Change regular County Board and staff meeting schedules to allow sufficient time to issue briefings

Campbell stated it was suggested that the staff meetings be held on Tuesday and the regular County Board meeting be held on Thursday to allow sufficient time for briefings.

Campbell asked the Board to think about the idea of certain public hearings being held at night and/or meeting later in the afternoon to encourage more public participation.

8) DISCUSSION OF COUNTY BOARD MEETING POLICY CONTINUED:

Hudkins requested Diane Staab, Deputy County Attorney, to review the statutes for clarification of scheduling of meetings.

Eagan suggested an update of the staff meeting be held at the regular County Board meeting on Tuesday.

Expand length and scope of the regular County Board meetings

It was the consensus of the Board to expand the length and scope of the regular County Board meetings held on Tuesday.

9) ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded adjournment. On call Steinman, Workman, Campbell and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Gwen Thorpe
Deputy County Clerk